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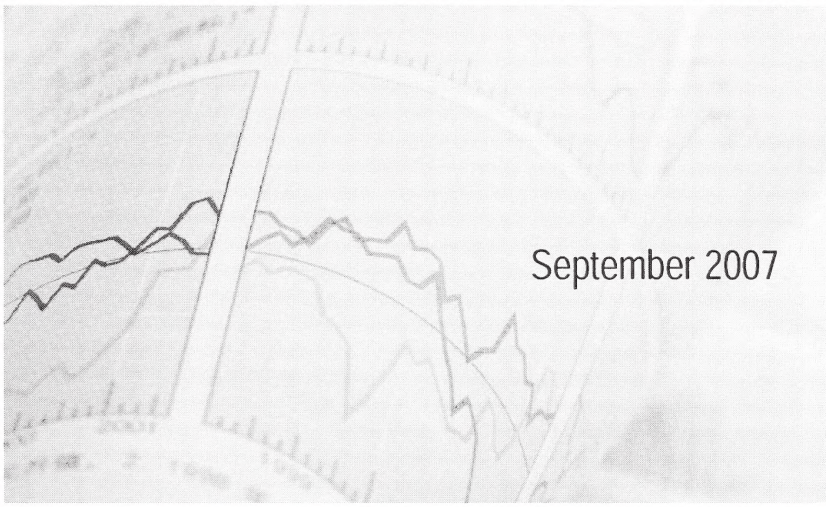

September 2007

Regional Economic Indicators

Central Region

Alberta
Employment, Immigration and Industry

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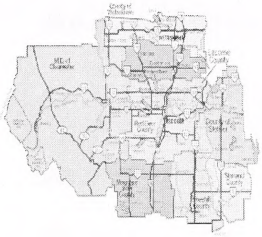

CENTRAL REGION

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MAJOR MUNICIPALITIES

- The Major Municipality that gained the most population according to Statistics Canada census data from 2001 – 2006 (5 Years), in percentage, for the Central Region was Sylvan Lake with an increase of 36.1% (2,705 residents). The Major Municipality that gained the most residents from 2001 - 2006 in the Central Region was Red Deer with an increase of 14,943 residents (22.0%).

Please note: Shadow populations are not counted in the census. The province of Alberta has recently experienced an influx of shadow population or seasonal workers due to the economic boom. This has been brought to the attention of Statistics Canada and any revisions will be released in the fall of 2008.

Economic Indicators: Central Region

Major Municipalities *	Status	2006 Population	2001 Population	1996 Population
Red Deer	City	82,772	67,829	60,075
Red Deer County	Municipal District	19,108	18,492	17,126
Mountain View County	Municipal District	12,391	12,124	11,277
Clearwater County	Municipal District	12,030	11,707	10,915
Wetaskiwin	City	11,673	11,154	10,959
Lacombe	Town	10,742	9,384	8,018
Wetaskiwin No. 10, County of	Municipal District	12,138	11,983	10,467
Lacombe County	Municipal District	10,483	10,609	10,081
Ponoka County	Municipal District	8,672	8,806	8,313
Sylvan Lake	Town	10,208	7,503	5,178

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006

*** Top ten cities/towns and municipalities in region, based on population from census years.**

Economic Indicators: Central Region

	2001 - 2006 (5 Years)		1996 - 2006 (10 Years)	
Major Municipalities	% Change	Net Change	% Change	Net Change
Red Deer	22.0%	14,943	37.8%	22,697
Red Deer County	3.3%	616	11.6%	1,982
Mountain View County	2.2%	267	9.9%	1,114
Clearwater County	2.8%	323	10.2%	1,115
Wetaskiwin	4.7%	519	6.5%	714
Lacombe	14.5%	1,358	34.0%	2,724
Wetaskiwin No. 10, County of	1.3%	155	16.0%	1,671
Lacombe County	-1.2%	(126)	4.0%	402
Ponoka County	-1.5%	(134)	4.3%	359
Sylvan Lake	36.1%	2,705	97.1%	5,030

Source: Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry

DEMOGRAPHICS

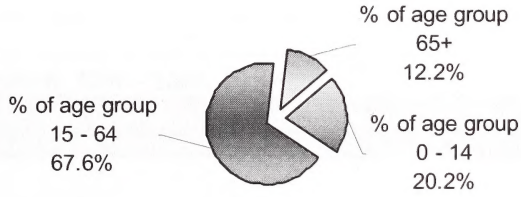
- According to Statistics Canada census data, the Central Region's population had a percentage increase of 10.5% from 2001 -2006 (5 years) which works out to a net increase of 26,532 residents.

- According to Statistics Canada census data, in 2006, the Central Region's population accounted for 8.5% of the provinces' total population.

Economic Indicators: Central Region	
Land Area	**Central**
Square Kilometers	45,938.6
% of Provincial Total	7.2
Total Population	**Central**
Population (000s), 2006 Census	278,990
% of Provincial Total	8.5%
Population (000s), 2001 Census	252,458
% of Provincial Total	8.5%
Population (000s), 1996 Census	230,175
% of Provincial Total	8.5%
Population Growth (%), 2001 - 2006	10.5%
Population Growth (%), 1996 - 2006	21.2%
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006	

Economic Indicators: Central Region			
Population Components	**2006**	**2001**	**1996**
Age Group: 65+ (%)	12.2	11.7	11.8
Age Group: 0 - 14 (%)	20.2	23.9	21.9
Dependency Ratio [1]	47.7	55.2	51.4
Old Age Dependency Ratio [2]	18.0	18.1	18.0
Males, Ages 0 -14 (%)	20.6	24.4	22.6
Females, Ages 0 - 14 (%)	19.7	23.4	21.5
Males, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	68.3	65.1	66.5
Females, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	67.0	63.8	65.5
Males, Ages 65+ (%)	11.1	10.5	10.9
Females, Ages 65+ (%)	13.2	12.8	13.0
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006			

Total Population by Age Group, 2006



DEMOGRAPHICS

- According to Statistics Canada census data, the Central Region's population had a percentage increase of 10.3% from 2001 (2006 Census) which works out to a net increase of 26,924 people.
- According to Statistics Canada census data, in 2006 the Central Region's population represented for 8.5% of the province's total population.

Population and Growth Statistics	
Area	Central
Square Kilometers	46,924.5
% of Provincial Total	7%
Population (000s), 2006 Census	24,0
Population (000s), 2006 Census	2,0
% of Provincial Total	8.5%
Population (000s), 2001 Census	22,0
% of Provincial Total	8.5%
Population (000s), 1996 Census	21,0
% of Provincial Total	8.4%
Population Growth (%), 2001 - 2006	10.3%
Population Growth (%), 1996 - 2006	24.2%

Population and Age Group Statistics			
Age Group	Central	Province	Canada
Age Group, 0 - 14 (%)	12.2	14.7	16.8
Age Group, 15 - 64 (%)	70.3	70.9	68.8
Dependency Ratio [1]	42.7	40.7	51.4
Old Age Dependency Ratio [2]	19.0	19.1	16.0
Males, Ages 0 - 14 (%)	6.5	7.4	8.4
Females, Ages 0 - 14 (%)	5.7	7.3	8.5
Males, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	35.3	35.1	34.1
Females, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	34.9	35.8	34.7
Males, Ages 65+ (%)	3.1	3.6	3.0
Females, Ages 65+ (%)	4.3	3.8	4.5

Total Population by Age Group, 2006

IMMIGRATION – PERMANENT RESIDENTS

- According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in 2006, 506 immigrants selected a location in the Central Region geography as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application form.

- The annualized percentage growth from 1996 to 2006 for the Central Region was 1.0%. The annualized percentage growth from 1996 to 2006 for Alberta was 4.0%. The percent change for the Central Region from 2001 -2006 (5 Years) was 18.8% (80) and the percent change from 1996 – 2006 (10 Years) was 10.5% (48).

Please note: This figure does not include temporary foreign workers, students or temporary residents. Also, those that selected a certain province as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application are not required to move to the province indicated. This means that there could potentially be data missing due to immigrants indicating once province as their destination and then actually moving to another.

Economic Indicators: Central Region	
Immigrants (Permanent Residents) [3]	**Central Region**
As of December 31, 1996	458
% of Province	**3.3%**
As of December 31, 1997	364
% of Province	**2.8%**
As of December 31, 1998	359
% of Province	**3.2%**
As of December 31, 1999	449
% of Province	**3.7%**
As of December 31, 2000	403
% of Province	**2.8%**
As of December 31, 2001	426
% of Province	**2.6%**
As of December 31, 2002	358
% of Province	**2.4%**
As of December 31, 2003	383
% of Province	**2.4%**
As of December 31, 2004	478
% of Province	**2.9%**
As of December 31, 2005	511
% of Province	**2.6%**
As of December 31, 2006	506
% of Province	**2.5%**
Annualized Percentage Growth, 1996 - 2006, 10 years [4]	**1.0%**
Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) Landing File, Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry	

NEWLY REGISTERED APPRENTICES

- The top trades that new apprentices registered for, in 2006, in the Central Region were: Welder (560), Crane and Hoisting Equipment Operator (417) and Heavy Equipment Technician (269).

Economic Indicators: Central Region	
Newly Registered Apprentices - All Trades [5]	**Central**
As of December 31, 2001	1,205
Region's % of Province New Registered Apprentices	**8.6%**
As of December 31, 2002	1,159
Region's % of Province New Registered Apprentices	**8.9%**
As of December 31, 2003	1,169
Region's % of Province New Registered Apprentices	**9.9%**
As of December 31, 2004	1,454
Region's % of Province New Registered Apprentices	**11.4%**
As of December 31, 2005	1,745
Region's % of Province New Registered Apprentices	**9.8%**
As of December 31, 2006	2,414
Region's % of Province New Registered Apprentices	**9.7%**
Annualized Percentage Growth, 2001 - 2006, 5 Years [6]	**14.9%**
Source: Alberta Advanced Education, Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry	

LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS – LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

- In 2006, according to the Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey, the Central Region's employment rate for the working population of 15+ was 70.5% with a participation rate of 73.2%.
- .

Economic Indicators: Central Region						
Annual Labour Force Characteristics [7]	**2006**	**2005**	**2004**	**2003**	**2002**	**2001**
Population: 15+ (000s)	208.2	195.0	187.9	205.5	201.6	192.2
Labour Force: 15+ (000s)	152.3	141.7	135.7	149.4	144.6	138.4
Employment: 15+ (000s)	146.8	137.0	130.1	141.3	136.5	131.9
Unemployment: 15+ (000s)	5.5	4.7	5.6	8.2	8.1	6.5
Participation Rate: 15+ (%)	73.2	72.7	72.2	72.7	71.7	72.0
Unemployment Rate: 15+ (%)	3.6	3.3	4.1	5.5	5.6	4.7
Employment Rate: 15+ (%)	70.5	70.3	69.2	68.8	67.7	68.6
Participation Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	74.9	74.4	74.0	73.8	73.8	74.3
Unemployment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	7.0	6.8	6.8	11.0	10.2	9.0
Employment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	69.9	69.3	69.0	65.9	66.6	67.6
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey - Note: N/A=data suppressed, insufficient sample						

There is no population control for special geography and some regions have small sample size, the volatility of these estimates can lead to large year to year swings in the data so the drop or increase would come from sampling variability. Also beginning in 2005, Statistics Canada used the 2005 redesign, prior 2005 they used the 1995 redesign. Statistics Canada also used a blend of the old and new designs from November 2004 to March 2005. This was the phase in period and the two designs did overlap during that time. Statistics Canada urges the reader to notice that some regions increase in sample size. This could explain the jump in population 15+.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY – LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

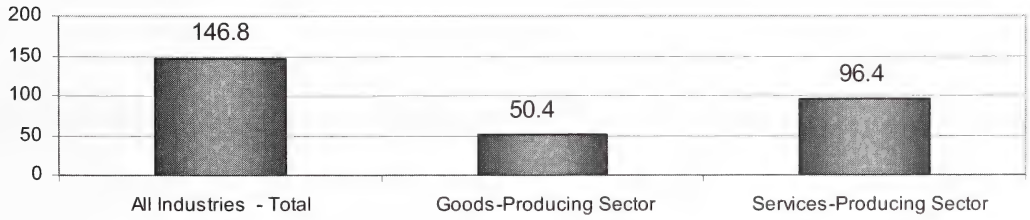
- In 2006, According to the Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey, the services - producing sector in the Central Region employed approximately 57% of those surveyed.

Economic Indicators: Central Region						
Annual Employment by Industry [8]	**2006**	**2005**	**2004**	**2003**	**2002**	**2001**
All Industries (000s) - Total	**146.8**	**137.0**	**130.1**	**141.3**	**136.5**	**131.9**
Goods-Producing Sector	**50.4**	**49.6**	**48.3**	**50.7**	**47.6**	**47.8**
Agriculture	11.9	10.3	12.3	14.4	14.5	13.7
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil & Gas	11.9	13.3	13.4	11.8	9.4	12.7
Utilities	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Construction	15.1	15.0	13.3	13.6	12.4	10.6
Manufacturing	10.5	10.7	8.6	10.3	11.1	10.0
Services-Producing Sector	**96.4**	**87.4**	**81.9**	**90.5**	**88.9**	**84.2**
Wholesale Trade	4.9	3.7	3.9	3.7	4.7	4.9
Retail Trade	15.8	15.2	15.4	16.4	14.9	17.2
Transportation & Warehousing	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.8	7.4	5.9
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	6.8	5.1	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.2
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	6.2	5.8	4.4	5.6	5.9	4.5
Business, Building & Other Support Services	5.3	5.7	3.7	3.8	3.2	3.0
Educational Services	8.5	8.6	7.5	8.6	8.3	7.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	14.8	16.9	13.8	13.8	12.8	11.9
Information, Culture & Recreation	4.1	3.9	3.1	4.4	5.6	3.6
Accommodation & Food Services	9.7	6.7	9.2	10.4	10.2	9.5
Other Services	8.1	6.5	6.2	6.0	6.9	6.4
Public Administration	5.7	3.3	3.3	5.4	3.7	4.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey Note: N/A= data suppressed, insufficient sample size.

There is no population control for special geography and some regions have small sample size, the volatility of these estimates can lead to large year to year swings in the data so the drop or increase would come from sampling variability. Also beginning in 2005, Statistics Canada used the 2005 redesign, prior 2005 they used the 1995 redesign. Statistics Canada also used a blend of the old and new designs from November 2004 to March 2005. This was the phase in period and the two designs did overlap during that time. Statistics Canada urges the reader to notice that some regions increase in sample size. This could explain the jump in population 15+.

Employment by Industry, Central, 2006 (In '000s)



INCOME

INDIVIDUAL INCOME

- In 2005, the average individual income for all taxfilers for the Central Region was $29,505.

- In 2005, 4.2% of all taxfilers for the Central Region reported individual gross income of $100,000 and over.

Economic Indicators: Central Region			
Individual Income[9]	**2005**	**2004**	**2003**
Average Individual Income ($)	29,505	25,975	24,350
Income Range		**%**	
Negative Claims (Includes $0)	20.8	21.5	22.0
$1 - $19,999	31.4	29.9	34.5
$20,000 - $39,999	20.5	20.7	20.9
$40,000 - $59,999	12.1	13.7	11.3
$60,000 - $79,999	7.4	7.9	6.2
$80,000 - $99,999	3.5	3.7	2.6
$100,000+	4.2	3.8	2.5
Source: Alberta Finance, Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry			

"COUPLE" INCOME

- In 2005, the average "couple income" for all taxfilers for the Central Region was $86,720.

- In 2005, 27.3% of all taxfilers for the Central Region that declared themselves a "couple", defined as married or common law, reported a combined gross income of $100,000 and over.

Economic Indicators: Central Region			
Couple Income[9]	**2005**	**2004**	**2003**
Average Couple Income ($)	86,720	77,290	71,230
Income Range		**%**	
Negative Claims (Includes $0)	0.5	0.6	0.8
$1 - $19,999	6.3	7.6	8.8
$20,000 - $39,999	16.9	19.3	20.7
$40,000 - $59,999	17.6	19.1	20.1
$60,000 - $79,999	17.5	17.9	18.1
$80,000 - $99,999	13.9	13.3	12.7
$100,000+	27.3	22.2	18.9
Source: Alberta Finance, Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry			

INVESTMENT

- In 2006, the total building permit value for the Central Region increased by 34.4% (roughly $235.7 million) from 2005.

- In 2006, the residential building permit value for the Central Region increased by 45.9% (roughly $191.5 million) from 2005.

- In 2006, the number of single family housing starts in the Central Region increased by 33.5% (761 units) from 2005. In 2006, 10.0% of all single family housing starts in Alberta were in the Central Region.

- In 2006, the number of total housing starts in the Central Region increased by 28.9% (912 units) from 2005. In 2006, 8.1% of total housing starts in Alberta were in the Central Region.

- Between the years 2001 and 2006, there has been 13,257 single family housing starts in the Central Region. During the same time the total housing starts were 18,745.

Economic Indicators: Central Region			
Building Permit Values and Housing Starts (2006)	**2006**	**2005**	**2004**
Total Building Permit Value ($000s)	920,785	685,124	532,967
% of Provincial Total	6.6%	6.7%	7.3%
Per Capita Building Permit Value ($) [10]	3,300	2,532	2,004
Average Annual Total Building Permit Value ($000s), 2001 - 2006	617,473		
Average Annual Total Building Permit Value ($000s), 1996 - 2006	503,041		
Commercial Building Permit Value ($000s)	192,920	139,868	104,846
% of Total Building Permit Value	21.0%	20.4%	19.7%
% of Provincial Commercial Building Permit Value	5.3%	5.9%	6.8%
Industrial Building Permit Value ($000s)	62,689	117,826	34,683
% of Total Building Permit Value	6.8%	17.2%	6.5%
% of Provincial Industrial Building Permit Value	6.0%	13.7%	8.1%
Institutional Building Permit Value ($000s)	56,890	10,615	62,742
% of Total Building Permit Value	6.2%	1.5%	11.8%
% of Provincial Institutional Building Permit Value	5.6%	1.2%	12.8%
Residential Building Permit Value ($000s)	608,286	416,815	330,826
% of Total Building Permit Value	66.1%	60.8%	62.0%
% of Provincial Residential Building Permit Value	7.5%	6.9%	6.8%
Single Family Housing Starts	3,031	2,270	1,901
Average Annual Single Family Housing Starts (2001 - 2006)	2,210		
Average Annual Single Family Housing Starts (1996 - 2006)	1,967		
Total Housing Starts	4,067	3,155	2,647
Average Annual Total Housing Starts (2001 - 2006)	3,125		
Average Annual Total Housing Starts (1996 - 2006)	2,660		
Source: Statistics Canada, Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry			

ESTABLISHMENTS WITH EMPLOYEES

- In 2006, 67.5% of all business establishments with employees in the Central Region were classified in the services - producing sector which includes such industries as Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services, and Public Administration.

- From 2005 - 2006, the percentage change in establishments with employees for all industries in the Central Region was 4.8% (615 net establishments). From 2001 – 2006, the percentage change in establishments with employees for all industries in the Central Region was 11.0% (1,328 net establishments).

- From 2005 – 2006, the goods - producing sector in the Central Region saw an increase of 5.6% (231 net establishments). From 2005 – 2006, the services - producing sector in the Central Region saw an increase of 4.2% (363 net establishments).

Economic Indicators: Central Region

Establishment with Employees [11]	2006	2005	2001	% Change 2005 - 2006	% Change 2001 - 2006
All Industries (Total)	**13,388**	**12,773**	**12,060**	**4.8%**	**11.0%**
Goods-Producing Sector	**4,325**	**4,094**	**4,030**	**5.6%**	**7.3%**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	1,131	1,157	1,305	-2.2%	-13.3%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	873	749	660	16.6%	32.3%
Utilities	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Construction	1,846	1,715	1,589	7.6%	16.2%
Manufacturing	475	455	458	4.4%	3.7%
Services-Producing Sector	**9,042**	**8,679**	**8,030**	**4.2%**	**12.6%**
Wholesale Trade	529	528	562	0.2%	-5.9%
Retail Trade	1,341	1,325	1,246	1.2%	7.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	749	703	702	6.5%	6.7%
Information, Culture & Recreation	290	271	272	7.0%	6.6%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	821	823	713	-0.2%	15.1%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	1,657	1,551	1,240	6.8%	33.6%
Business, Building & Other Support Services	668	610	572	9.5%	16.8%
Educational Services	103	101	94	2.0%	9.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	769	749	705	2.7%	9.1%
Accommodation & Food Services	668	668	668	0.0%	0.0%
Other Services	1,381	1,290	1,183	7.1%	16.7%
Public Administration	66	60	73	10.0%	-9.6%

Source: 2006 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance Note: N/A - Insufficient sample size, data suppressed
Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry

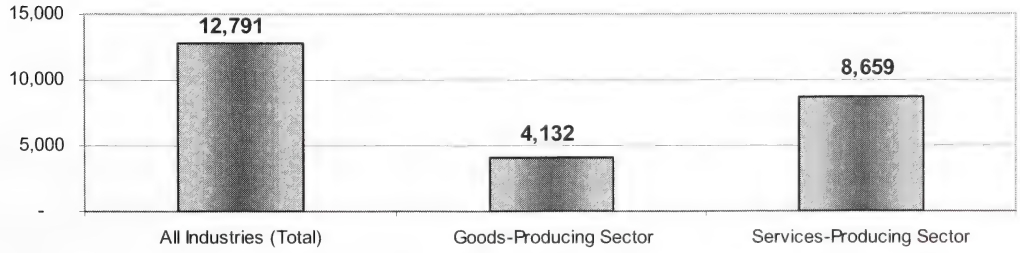
SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS (1 – 49 EMPLOYEES)

- From 2005 - 2006, the percentage change in small business establishments for all industries in the Central Region was 3.9% (480 net establishments). From 2001 – 2006, the percentage change in establishments with employees for all industries in the Central Region was 9.7% (1,135 net establishments).

Economic Indicators: Central Region					
Small Business Establishments (1 - 49 Employees) [12]	**2006**	**2005**	**2001**	**% Change 2005 - 2006**	**% Change 2001 - 2006**
All Industries (Total)	**12,791**	**12,311**	**11,656**	**3.9%**	**9.7%**
Goods-Producing Sector	**4,132**	**3,934**	**3,899**	**5.0%**	**6.0%**
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	1,119	1,152	1,299	-2.9%	-13.9%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	805	707	622	13.9%	29.4%
Utilities	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**
Construction	1,766	1,649	1,539	7.1%	14.7%
Manufacturing	421	408	421	3.2%	0.0%
Services-Producing Sector	**8,659**	**8,377**	**7,757**	**3.4%**	**11.6%**
Wholesale Trade	508	508	543	0.0%	-6.4%
Retail Trade	1,261	1,259	1,190	0.2%	6.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	721	688	690	4.8%	4.5%
Information, Culture & Recreation	276	256	262	7.8%	5.3%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	780	782	678	-0.3%	15.0%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	1,635	1,536	1,232	6.4%	32.7%
Business, Building & Other Support Services	650	597	563	8.9%	15.5%
Educational Services	87	88	80	-1.1%	8.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	721	708	657	1.8%	9.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	619	632	632	-2.1%	-2.1%
Other Services	1,357	1,276	1,174	6.3%	15.6%
Public Administration	44	47	56	-6.4%	-21.4%

Source: 2006 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance
Compilations by Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry

Small Business (1 - 49 Employees) Establishment Count, 2006



INVENTORY OF MAJOR PROJECTS

- As of June 30, 2007, there were 90 projects in all industries for the Central Region that were proposed, planned, under construction or completed.

- As of June 30, 2007, the total value for these 90 projects in all industries for the Central Region that were proposed, planned, under construction or completed was $2.7 billion.

Please note: 2007 and 2006 can not be compared because some projects are carried over several years and there is only one cost available for the entire project.

Economic Indicators: Central Region

Major Construction Projects, As of June 30 [13]

	Projects		Value ($millions)	
Industry Sector	**2007**	**2006**	**2007**	**2006**
Agriculture and Related	1	2	$7.5	$26.0
Chemicals and Petrochemicals	2	2	$430.0	$35.0
Commercial/Retail	9	4	$314.8	$27.6
Infrastructure	30	18	$905.1	$579.4
Institutional	19	15	$425.8	$286.3
Manufacturing	1	1	$36.0	$36.0
Other Industrial	1	**N/A**	$7.5	**N/A**
Pipelines	4	4	$164.0	$126.3
Power	2	**N/A**	$93.5	**N/A**
Residential	9	4	$106.3	$31.9
Tourism/Recreation	12	11	$210.9	$168.7
TOTAL	**90**	**61**	**$2,701.4**	**$1,317.2**

Source: Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry, Inventory of Major Alberta Projects

1. This inventory lists projects in Alberta, valued at $5 million or greater, that have recently been completed, are currently under construction, or are proposed to start construction within two years. Not all projects over this threshold are listed due to reasons of confidentiality and/or due to information not being available at time of printing.
2. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Although, where possible, this data has been verified with the project proponent / developer, users of the Inventory may wish to confirm project data with the proponent / developer.
3. The inventory does not breakdown project expenditures by any given year. The cost of the project is the value of expenditures expected over all phases of project construction, which may span over two or more years.
4. The cost of projects listed in the Inventory are estimated values only.

Economic Indicator Definitions
1 Dependency Ratio – As of May 2006, the percentage of the population below the age of 15 (Child) and over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 – 64). This is the population of children and elderly that are dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
2 Old Age Dependency Ratio – As of May 2006, the percentage of the population over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 - 64).This is the population that is dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
3 Permanent Immigrants - Citizenship and Immigration Canada's (CIC) count of where immigrants are landing within the province of Alberta. This includes spouses, dependents, entrepreneurs, investors, self employed, refugees and family sponsorship. This does not take into account those that land in other Canadian provinces and then move to Alberta.
4 Annualized Percentage Growth, 1996 - 2006, 10 Years (%) - The average annual increase in immigrants over the 10 year period.
5 Newly Registered Apprentices - All Trades - The number of apprentices that are newly enrolled in a designated trade program. The apprentices must be enrolled by their original employer by December 31 of the year. Regional data is based on original employer location.
6 Annualized Percentage Growth, 2001 - 2006 (%) - The average annual increase in newly registered apprentices for the 5 year period.
7 Annual Labour Force Characteristics - Drawn from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS). The LFS is the source of current, monthly, and annual estimates of total employment (including self-employment) and unemployment. Allocating existing LFS respondents to Economic Indicator Regions results in insufficient data for certain regions (i.e. Insufficient sample sizes). **LABOUR FORCE:** Persons who are 15 years or over that were not institutional residents that were either employed or unemployed for the year. Labour Force = Employed + Unemployed. **PARTICIPATION RATE:** Number of persons from the Labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. Participation Rate = (Labour Force / Population 15 years and over)*100. **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. Unemployment Rate = (Unemployed / Labour Force)*100. **EMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. Employment Rate = (Employed / Population 15 years and over)*100.
8 Annual Employment by Industry - Based on the Labour Force Survey data. Industry and occupation codes are assigned using the respondent's job description on the questionnaire. Codes assigned are based on the classifications described in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2002).
9 Income (2005) – Individual Income (2005) - Gross income for individuals filing income tax in Alberta in 2005**. Couple Income (2005) –** Gross income for people that defined themselves as married or common law when filing the income tax in Alberta in 2005**.**
10 Per Capita Building Permit Value ($) - Total value of building permits for a region divided by its population.
11 Annual Establishments with Employees – Business establishments are presented by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) industry codes. Commercial industries are included as are several in the public sector (schools, universities, hospitals, government offices, churches, service clubs, etc.)
12 Small Business Establishments - Business establishment with less than 49 employees and at least one employee. This does not include individuals that are self-employed.
13 Major Projects – As of June 2007, a list of major development projects in Alberta that are valued at $5 million or more that are planned, currently under construction or recently completed. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Updated information is added monthly, print edition is updated quarterly.

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You can access the Regional Economic Indicators and the following related department publications on the Internet at www.alberta-canada.com :

- Monthly Economic Review
- Alberta's International Merchandise Exports
- Alberta International Trade Review
- Inventory of Major Alberta Projects
- Highlights of the Alberta Economy
- Place-to-Place Price Comparison Survey
- Facts on Alberta

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